

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



April 18, 2002

## REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 02-04

To: County Refugee Coordinators

This letter is to advise counties of their proposed Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2002 Refugee Employment and Social Services (RESS) Program allocations. The Proposed Notice of Allocations to States of FFY 2002 Funds for Refugee Social Services was published by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) in the *Federal Register* on April 9, 2002. Copies of this Notice may be accessed on the Funding Opportunities page of the Refugee Programs Branch's (RPB's) web site at <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

The state's proposed RESS allocation for FFY 2002 is \$7,375,880, representing a decrease of \$4,002,677 from last year's final allocation of \$11,378,557 which included two special set-aside allocations. This year, the state's allocation does NOT include set-aside funds. The state's allocation was determined by a formula based on the state's proportion of the national population of refugees who had been in the United States (U.S.) three years or less as of October 1, 2001, as adjusted for estimated secondary migration.

Section IV of the Notice explains the basis for the estimates of the state's refugee, entrant and Havana parolee populations. The ORR data for these groups is in line with RPB data. However, this section notes that states which have served persons granted asylum within the 36 month period ending September 30, 2001 or those certified as victims of a severe form of trafficking may submit data on these groups in order to have their population estimate adjusted. The RPB believes that there may be significant numbers of persons in California who fall into these categories. In order for the RPB to compile statewide data to submit to ORR, counties are requested to provide the following information on all asylees and/or trafficking victims who have received Refugee Program services:

- 1) Alien number;
- 2) Date of birth; and
- 3) For asylees, date asylum was granted; or
- 4) For trafficking victims, certification letter number and date on certification letter.

This information should be reported separately for asylees and trafficking victims. It should be submitted to the RPB in *Microsoft Excel* format via mail on a diskette or e-mail ([RPB@dss.ca.gov](mailto:RPB@dss.ca.gov)) by close of business on April 30, 2002. The RPB will compile all counties' data and forward it to ORR with a request to adjust the state's population estimate.

General comments on the Notice are due to ORR by May 9, 2002. The RPB is reviewing the Notice and will be preparing comments for submittal by the deadline. If counties have comments they wish to be included with the state's comments, they should submit them in writing to the RPB, to the attention of Mr. Brad Elftmann, by close of business on April 30, 2002. If counties wish to offer separate comments directly to ORR, they are requested to provide copies of them to the RPB.

Counties eligible to receive RESS funds for FFY 2002 are those with a minimum of 500 refugee arrivals during the most recent five-year period (FFYs 1997 through 2001). (See Enclosed Arrivals Summary.) Using this threshold, 12 counties are eligible for FFY 2002 RESS funds: Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Yolo. The RPB is awaiting responses from both San Bernardino and Stanislaus Counties on whether these counties, which have not recently participated in the RESS Program, wish to participate in FFY 2002. Should these counties decide not to participate, their funding will be re-allocated among participating counties. Please note that all or some of the allocation for San Diego County will be diverted to the Fish/Wilson Alternative Project. The exact amount of funding for the project has not yet been determined by ORR. Should the amount, once determined, differ from the amount calculated according to the state's methodology, allocations for other counties could be affected.

After setting aside a portion equal to 15 percent of the state's allocation for state administration, FFY 2002 RESS funds have been allocated to counties according to the conventional methodology which is based on the number of adult refugees receiving cash assistance in each eligible county who have resided in the U.S. for 60 months or less. Data used in the formula was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) Report, dated November 29, 2001. Allocations are shown in Column 4 on the attached spreadsheet. Counties are authorized to use up to \$2,000 of the amount shown for the purposes of coordinating an annual public event to celebrate the achievements of refugees, raise awareness of the contributions that refugees have made to the community, and promote the Refugee Resettlement Program in California.

As always, counties are cautioned to use the proposed allocations for planning purposes only. Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than amounts indicated in the proposed Notices. In addition, final allocations will be based on the most recent MEDS data available at the time the Final Notice is published by ORR. Because MEDS data fluctuates, final county allocations may be

significantly different than proposed allocations. The RPB anticipates that the Final Notice will be published by ORR in late July or early August.

Should you have questions regarding the proposed allocations or other information in this letter, please contact Ms. Phyllis Iwasaki, Manager of the Community Development and Fiscal Services Bureau, at (916) 654-2387 or Mr. Elftmann of her staff at (916) 654-7250.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by Thuan Nguyen  
on April 18, 2002**

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief  
Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosures

**REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES (RESS) ALLOCATIONS  
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2002**

\$ 7,375,880 California's Proposed FFY 2002 RESS Allocation  
 \$ 1,106,382 State Administration Funds (15% of State's Allocation)  
 \$ 6,269,498 Funds to be Allocated to Counties

(1)  County	(3)  Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. 60 months or less <sup>1</sup>		(4)  Total County Formula Allocation	(5)  County Administrative Costs Cap  @ 15% Maximum	(6)  Service Dollars  (Col. 4 - Col. 5)
	Number	% of Total			
Alameda	349	3.562%	\$ 223,320	33,498	\$ 189,822
Contra Costa	72	0.735%	\$ 46,081	6,912	\$ 39,169
Fresno	160	1.633%	\$ 102,381	15,357	\$ 87,024
Los Angeles	4,533	46.265%	\$ 2,900,583	435,087	\$ 2,465,496
Orange	811	8.277%	\$ 518,926	77,839	\$ 441,087
Sacramento	2,241	22.872%	\$ 1,433,960	215,094	\$ 1,218,866
San Bernardino	60	0.612%	\$ 38,369	5,755	\$ 32,614
San Diego <sup>2</sup>	477	4.868%	\$ 305,199	45,780	\$ 259,419
San Francisco	188	1.919%	\$ 120,312	18,047	\$ 102,265
Santa Clara	536	5.471%	\$ 343,004	51,451	\$ 291,553
Stanislaus	175	1.786%	\$ 111,973	16,796	\$ 95,177
Yolo	196	2.000%	\$ 125,390	18,809	\$ 106,581
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,798</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$ 6,269,498</b>	<b>\$ 940,425</b>	<b>\$ 5,329,073</b>

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Reports, dated November 29, 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that all or some of the allocation for San Diego County will be diverted to the Fish/Wilson Alternative Project. The exact amount of funding for the project has not yet been determined by ORR. Should the amount, once determined, differ from the amount calculated according to the state's methodology, allocations for other counties could be affected.

**\*\* Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than the amounts shown here.**

**REFUGEE ARRIVALS INTO CALIFORNIA COUNTIES**  
**FFYs 1997 - 2001**

<b>COUNTY NAME</b>	<b>FFY:</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>ALAMEDA</b>		383	546	453	353	392	2,127
ALPINE		-	-	-	-	-	-
AMADOR		-	-	-	-	-	-
BUTTE		39	13	5	2	-	59
CALAVERAS		-	-	-	-	-	-
COLUSA		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>CONTRA COSTA</b>		96	100	75	95	144	510
DEL NORTE		-	-	-	-	-	-
EL DORADO		-	5	4	8	4	21
<b>FRESNO</b>		245	124	102	79	109	659
GLENN		9	-	-	-	-	9
HUMBOLDT		1	-	5	1	-	7
IMPERIAL		-	-	-	-	-	-
INYO		-	-	-	-	-	-
KERN		5	6	-	3	10	24
KINGS		5	-	2	-	-	7
LAKE		-	-	-	-	-	-
LASSEN		-	-	3	-	-	3
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>		2,387	1,982	2,068	3,602	3,838	13,877
MADERA		-	-	5	11	2	18
MARIN		32	32	43	14	29	150
MARIPOSA		-	-	-	-	-	-
MENDOCINO		-	1	-	-	-	1
MERCED		65	2	-	22	-	89
MODOC		-	-	-	-	-	-
MONO		-	-	-	-	-	-
MONTEREY		13	10	16	3	2	44
NAPA		1	-	4	-	-	5
NEVADA		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>ORANGE</b>		744	903	834	621	635	3,737
PLACER		15	49	37	18	67	186
PLUMAS		-	-	-	-	-	-
RIVERSIDE		99	120	95	81	40	435
<b>SACRAMENTO</b>		1,983	2,864	2,197	1,791	1,926	10,761
SAN BENITO		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SAN BERNARDINO</b>		157	211	160	89	74	691
<b>SAN DIEGO</b>		811	627	1,353	1,083	1,140	5,014
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>		1,493	734	487	443	292	3,449
SAN JOAQUIN		72	66	27	4	29	198
SAN LUIS OBISPO		-	-	8	-	2	10
SAN MATEO		121	104	60	54	65	404
SANTA BARBARA		16	42	12	11	5	86
<b>SANTA CLARA</b>		1,264	1,319	1,122	914	866	5,485
SANTA CRUZ		3	-	-	1	2	6
SHASTA		3	-	-	-	-	3
SIERRA		-	-	-	-	-	-
SISKIYOU		-	-	-	-	-	-
SOLANO		15	10	14	8	6	53
SONOMA		22	24	12	4	4	66
<b>STANISLAUS</b>		118	64	108	237	374	901
SUTTER		-	-	-	-	1	1
TEHAMA		-	-	-	-	-	-
TRINITY		-	-	-	-	-	-
TULARE		12	-	-	-	-	12
TUOLUMNE		-	4	-	1	-	5
VENTURA		27	21	28	34	28	138
<b>YOLO</b>		295	378	197	166	214	1,250
YUBA		35	1	-	4	-	40
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,586</b>	<b>10,362</b>	<b>9,536</b>	<b>9,757</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>50,541</b>

**Note:** Counties eligible to receive FFY 2002 Refugee Employment and Social Services funds are shown as shaded.